

Ex #1504

Evidentiary document # 5081.

IN THE MATTER OF JAPANESE WAR CRIMES  
AT CHANGI PRISONER OF WAR CAMP.

A F F I D A V I T.

I, Lieutenant-Colonel CHARLES PHILLIP HEATH, D.S.O., Royal Artillery, with permanent home address at ARDMORE COTTAGE, ARDMORE ROAD, PARKSTONE, DORSET, MAKE OATH and say as follows:

1. I was captured in SINGAPORE on 15 February 1942 and was thereafter confined in the following prisoner of war camps during the periods stated:-

	<u>From</u>	<u>Until</u>
CHANGI	18 February 1942	16 May 1942
HARVELOCK ROAD and ) RIVER VALLEY CAMPS)	16 May 1942	24 December 1942
CHANGI	25 December 1942	3 June 1945
KRANJI HOSPITAL	4 June 1945	till the cessation of hostilities.

2. When I originally arrived at CHANGI Camp the Senior British Officer was Lieutenant-General PERCIVAL and the Japanese Supervising Officer was Lieutenant OKASAKI. (I myself was Officer Commanding 9th Coast Regiment, Royal Artillery, of whom there were about seven hundred all-ranks in the camp.

3. In March 1942 three men of my regiment, namely:

No. 1427206 - Gunner HUNTER, D.,  
No. 872575 - Gunner McCANN, J., and  
No. 1427395 - Gunner JEFFRIES, G.,

were missing from our lines. On 19 March 1942 I received a message to attend at General PERCIVAL's Headquarters as three men of my regiment had been apprehended by the Japanese outside the camp and that the Japanese proposed to shoot them. I went to Headquarters, taking the Roman Catholic Chaplain, by name WATSON, with me, where I was told by Brigadier NEWBIGGING that the Japanese were determined to carry out the shooting despite the fact that General PERCIVAL had lodged a strong protest against it as being absolutely illegal. As a result of another message from the Japanese I sent for the men's Battery Commander, Captain B. GRIFFITH who arrived shortly afterwards. Brigadier NEWBIGGING took the three of us in his car to the headquarters of the Japanese Prisoners of War Administration.

4. Shortly after our arrival there the three gunners who had been missing arrived in a lorry from the direction of SINGAPORE. After some conversation between Brigadier NEWBIGGING and the Japanese he told me that the latter had refused General PERCIVAL's request for leniency and were going to shoot the three prisoners.

5. He followed the lorry in Brigadier NEWBIGGING's car to the coast near BETING KUSA where he remained with the car while GRIFFITH, WATSON and myself walked 50 or 60 yards down to the beach. The three Gunners were ordered out of the lorry and I now saw that their hands were tied behind their backs and attached to a length of cord held by their guards. A Japanese interpreter came to us and said the men were going to be shot and showed us where we were to witness it from.
6. After we three officers had spoken to the Gunners, they were led to the site of the execution where a single grave had been dug. They were blindfolded and made to kneel down beside the grave at intervals of about one and a half yards. The Japanese firing party of three stood about thirty yards away and fired a volley on an order from the Japanese Warrant Officer or N.C.O. in charge of them. All three men fell almost simultaneously but, obviously, not all of them were dead. The firing party and the N.C.O. then walked up to the grave and, under the latter's direction, finished off the prisoners still alive by firing at least 3 more shots.
7. After the grave had been filled in the Japanese ceremoniously saluted the grave and decorated it with shrubs from the undergrowth. The Japanese interpreter told me I had seen prisoners shot because they had attempted to escape and he had been instructed that I was to warn all others that their fate would be the same if any of them were caught trying to escape.
8. Towards the end of February 1942 it became common knowledge in the camp that a number of Chinese members of the Straits Settlement volunteer force had been conveyed by the Japanese to the beach east of CHANGI following their capture, and there murdered by machine-gun fire. This was understood to have taken place a few days after the capitulation. A burial party was provided by British infantry from the southern area of the camp.
9. During my stay in the camp conditions generally compared favourably with those in other Japanese prisoner of war camps with the notable exception of the food. This was inferior in both quantity and quality.
10. As in other Japanese camps many prisoners were employed on constructing military works; in CHANGI on building an air-field near the camp.
11. I have read the affidavit of Lieutenant-Colonel G.E.C. ROSSALL, sworn at WESTMINSTER on 13 December 1945 and I consider it represents a true general picture of the ration position at the camp.
- SWORN by the aforesaid CHARLES PHILLIP HEATH )  
at 6 Spring Gardens in the City of Westminster )  
this Eighth day of JANUARY 1946, ) (Sgd.) C.P. HEATH.  
Before me,  
(Sgd.) R.D.L. KELLY, Captain Legal Staff.  
Military Department, Office of The Judge Advocate General, London.



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3.

I certify that this is a true copy of the original affidavit.

(Signed) A.M. Sch MACDONALD.  
Major.

Legal Staff.  
Office of the Judge Advocate General.

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チャールス・フイリツブ ヒース

原 籍 アーモア・カッツデ、アーモア・通、バ  
イクストン、ドールセツト陸軍砲兵中佐チャール  
ス・フキリツブ、ヒース D 80 (武功勳章) ハ茲  
ニ宣誓シ次ノ如ク陳述致シマス。

一 私ハ一九四二年二月十五日「シンガポール」デ  
俘虜トナリ其後下記期間中次ニ述べる俘虜收容  
所ニ監禁サレマシタ。「チャンギ」自一九四二  
年二月十八日至一九四二年五月十六日！！！！  
！！！！！！！！

ニ 私ハ第九沿岸防衛<sup>新</sup>聯隊砲兵ノ指揮官デアリマシ  
タ。ソシテ其聯隊ノ中約七百名ノ各階級ノ者ガ  
其ノ收容所ニ居リマシタ。

三 一九四二年三月我聯隊ニ屬スル三名即チ

一四二七二〇六番 砲手 ハンター D

八七二五七五番 砲手 マツクカーン、J 及

一四二七五九五番 砲手 ジエフリース G

ガ我々ノ間カラ失踪シマシタ。千九四二年ノ三  
月、<sup>た</sup>私ハ我聯隊ノ三名ガ收容所ノ外デ日本側ニ  
逮捕サレ日本側ガ彼等ヲ射殺スルト企テ、キル  
ノデ「バーシバル」將軍ノ司令部ヘ出頭スル様  
ニ傳言ヲ受ケマシタ。私ハローマンカソリック



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ノ「ワットソン」ト云フ牧師ヲ伴ツテ司令部へ  
参リマシタ。ソコデ私ハ「ニュウビツギング」  
代將カラ「バーシバル」將軍ガ全ク不法ナリト  
シテ強硬ニ抗議ヲ申込シタニモ拘ラズ日本側デ  
ハ銃殺ノ執行ヲ決定シタト云フコトヲ聞カサレ  
マシタ。日本側カラノ他ノ傳言ニ依リ私ハ三名  
ノ所屬スル砲兵中隊長「B・グリツフイス」大  
尉ヲ迎ヘニヤリマシタ。彼ハ聞モナクヤツテ参  
リマシタ。

「ニュウビツギング」代將ハ我々三人ヲ彼ノ自動  
車ニ乗セテ日本ノ俘虜管理本部ヘ連れて参リマ  
シタ。

四 私ガ其處ヘ到着シテ同モナク、行衛不明ダツタ  
三名ノ砲手ガ「シンガポール」ノ方面カラ貨物  
自動車ニ乗ツテ到着致シマシタ「ニュウビツギ  
ング」代將ハ日本側ト二三話ヲサレタ後私ニ日  
本側ハ「バーシバル」將軍ノ請願ヲ斥ケ三名ノ  
俘虜ヲ銃殺シヨウトシテキルト話サレマシタ。

五 私達ハ「ニュウビツギング」代將ノ自動車デ貨  
物自動車ニ隨イテ「ベツテイング・クサー」ノ近  
クノ海岸ヘ行キマシタ。其處デ代將ハ車ニ登リ  
「グリツフイス」「ワットソン」及私ハ濱邊迄  
五、六十ヤード歩キマシタ。三名ノ砲手ハ貨物

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自動車カラ下リル様ニ命ゼラレマシタ、ソシテ私ハ其時彼等ガ後手ニ縛バラレ彼等ニツケラレタ長イ紐ヲ看守ガ持ツテキルノヲ見マシタ。日本人ノ通譯ガ私達ノトコロヘ來テ三名ノ若達ガ銃殺サレルコトヲ告ゲ、私達ニ立會フ場所ヲ指示シマシタ。

私達三人ガ砲手ト話ヲ交シタ後、彼等ハ刑場ヘ導カレマシタ。其處ニハ一ツ墓穴ガ掘ツテアリマシタ。彼等ハ目隠シヲサレ、約一ヤード半ノ間隔ヲ置イテ其墓穴ノ傍ニ跪カサレマシタ。日本側ノ三名ノ小銃射手が約三十ヤード離レテ立テ、彼等ヲ指揮シテキタ准士官カ下士官ノ命令デ一齊射撃ガ行ハレマシタ。三人ハ殆ンド同時ニ倒レマシタガ確カニ全部ハ死ニマセンデシタ。射手ト下士官ガ穴ノ方ヘ歩イテ行キ、下士官ノ指圖デ未ダ生キテキル俘虜ヲ少クトモ三回射撃シ息ノ根ヲ止メマシタ。

墓穴ガ埋メラレタ後日本人ハ敬々シク墓ニ敬禮シ竅カラ遺木ヲ採ツテ來テ飾リマシタ。日本側ノ通譯ハ俘虜達ガ逃亡シヨウト企テ、銃殺サレルノヲ私ニ見セタノダト話シマシタ。ソシテ彼ハ私ガ他ノ俘虜達ニモ彼等ガ若シ逃亡ヲ企テ逮



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捕サレノベ同ジヤウナ運命ニナルト云フコトラ知  
ラセテ正ク様ニト描圖（上宣カラ）ヲ受ケテキル  
ト語シマシタ